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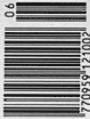
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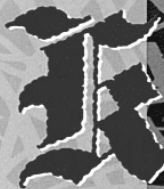
NIGHTS of PENDRAGON



ISSN 0959-1214



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The KNIGHTS' of PENDRAGON

THE WOUNDED LAND

The once-beautiful town of Joselito in Spain has become the nesting ground for the dreadful Bane, a demonic force determined to bring death and destruction to the World. To this end, their leader, Grace, who is also head of the Omni Corporation, has developed a plan to resurrect the Red Knight, the Bane's banished leader. By fooling the Stark Corporation into selling her land for what they believe is going to be a wind turbine plant, she has acquired a group of caves, once the site for sacred and bizarre rituals that are to used again to fulfil Grace's warped schemes. Attempting to stop her are the champion spirits of the Pendragon. These include the superheroes, Albion (alias Peter Hunter) and Union Jack, who, while exploring the caves, are attacked by Iron Man, who believes them to be intruders. But before battle can really be joined, Grace triggers a huge explosion that destroys the caves and swamps them with toxic waste. In the town itself, the fate of the other Pendragons seems sealed when Ben Gallagher and Kate McEllan, searching for her son who is now Grace's plaything, are ambushed by Bane genseis. However, Grace's plans take a turn for the worst when instead of the Red Knight appearing, his opponent and Lord of the Pendragons, rises from the flames - the awesome Green Knight, responding to the desperate cries of the wounded land...

Chapter Twelve:



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environmentally safe paper which uses half as many trees as
normal paper and a minimum amount of chlorine bleach.

'BUT AT MY BACK IN A COLD
BLAST I HEAR
THE RATTLE OF THE BONES,
AND CHUCKLE SPREAD,
FROM EAR TO EAR.'
T.S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*.

'STORMS BREAK ON THE STONE HILLSIDE,
THE GROUND BOUND BY DRIVING SLEET,
WINTER'S BREATH, THEN HANNIBAL COMETH,
NIGHT'S SHADE SPREADETH, SENDETH
FROM THE NORTH
THE ROUGH HAIL TO HARRY MANKIND.'
Anon, *The Wanderer*.

'I HAVE SLAIN THE LAND
TO PLEASE MY LORD.'

'I HAVE WOUNDED IT SO DEEP WITH
POISON THAT IT CANNOT LIVE, AND
IT HAS CRIED OUT IN ITS PAIN.'

'BUT ITS CRIES HAVE NOT BROUGHT
MY LORD THE HORNED ONE TO
THIS PLACE AS I HAD PLANNED.'

NO... NO... NO...
NO... NO...

'AND NOW I AM
AFRAID.'









RAIN,
INTENSE.

A WAVE
OF IT,
LIKE A
FIRE-
STORM
ACROSS
THE...

WHAT IS
THIS...
NOT?

WHY CAN'T I
REMEMBER
THE...

EXPLOSION! THE WHOLE
PLACE WENT UP WHILST I
WAS FIGHTING THAT...



THERE YOU ARE!
LOOK, THE WHOLE
PLACE IS COMING
DOWN...

YOU?



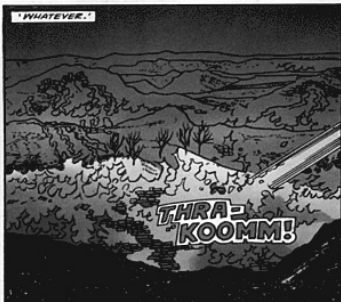
OUCH, YOUR
ARMOUR'S RED HOT!
YOU COOKING IN
THERE OKAY?

HUH?

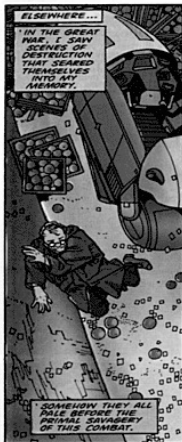
NEVER MIND,
THE ENTRANCE
IS BLOCKED.
YOU'LL HAVE TO
USE YOUR RAY
GUNS, MATE.

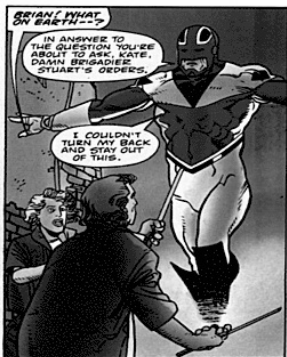
REPULSORS.

'WHATEVER.'











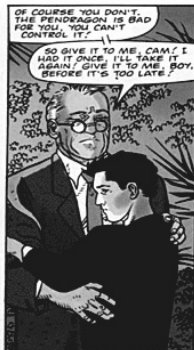


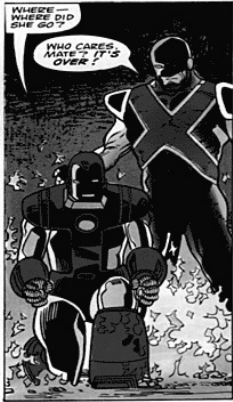
















HUNTER EXPLAINED IT TO ME BEFORE, BUT EVEN THEN I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND. IT'S TO DO WITH THE GRAIL...

BUT THAT ONE'S A FAKE, ISN'T IT?



OF COURSE, BUT THEN SO WAS THE ONE PERCEVAL QUESTED AFTER.

COME AGAIN?

PERCEVAL SOUGHT THE GRAIL BECAUSE THE LAND WAS WOUNDED BACK THEN TOO — INFERTILE, DEAD, DRY. HE WAS SEEKING A WAY OF HEALING THE MAIMED KING, AND BRINGING LIFE TO THE LAND.

THE SECRETS OF CREATION AND RECREATION.



PERCEVAL LEARNED THE SECRET OF LIVING WITH THE NATURAL CYCLE AND NOT AGAINST IT. THAT WAS THE POWER HE BROUGHT BACK TO SAVE THE LAND.



HE DIDN'T NEED A GAUDY CHALICE TO DO IT, AND NEITHER DO WE.

TING



CAMELAIRED FARM,
WILTSHIRE. A
FORTNIGHT LATER.

... OF COURSE IT
DOESN'T LOOK
MUCH YET, BUT
JUST WAIT...



... I'LL KEEP THE OUTSIDE MUCH
AS IT IS, BUT INSIDE — STATE
OF THE ART MOD CONS. AREAS
TO RELAX, DISCUSS, DEBATE...
MAYBE EVEN A COMPUTER
LIBRARY IF WE NEED IT.

TELL ME AGAIN,
BOYD. YOU BOUGHT
THIS PLACE TO
LIVE IN IT?



NOT QUITE.
IT'S FOR US,
FOR THE
PENDRAGONS...

JACK?

PEEF! WHY DO
YOU SUPERTYPES
ALWAYS SEEM TO
NEED A SECRET
CAVE THE MOMENT
YOU GET GOING?



TONY STARK TOLD
ME WE'LL SUPPLY
YOU WITH WHATEVER
HARDWARE YOU NEED
FOR THIS PLACE...

ANY MORE
BLASTED
BUBBLY ON
OFFER?

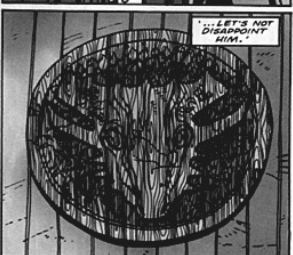
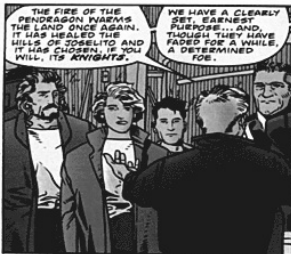


BLIMEY!
THAT'S A VERY
GENEROUS
OFFER...

ATTENTION, PLEASE! I THINK
PERHAPS A FEW WORDS
ARE IN ORDER TO EXPLAIN
THE METHOD BEHIND JACK'S
APPARENT MADNESS...

THIS PLACE IS TO
PROVIDE US WITH A
CENTRE, A MEETING
PLACE WE CAN COME
BACK TO FROM TIME
TO TIME...





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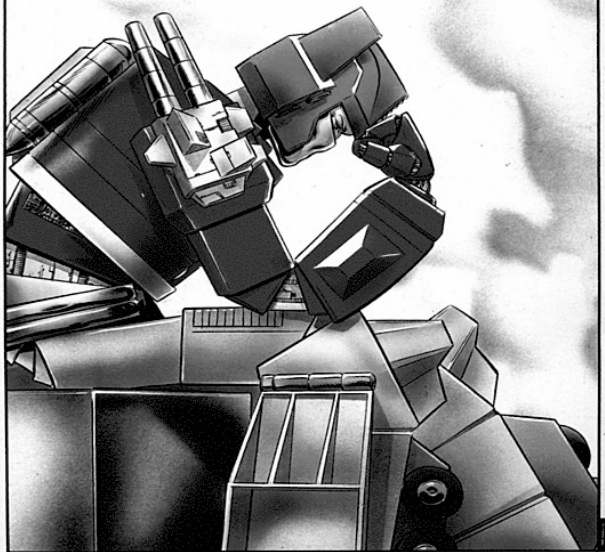
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